

Contest Echoed Public Voice, Readers Assert

Voters Praise The Tribune for the Wide Interest It Has Created in the Issues of the National Campaign

Awoke People, Says One

Planks Contributed by the Thousand Speak for All Sections of United States

Readers of The Tribune—if one may judge by the volume of commendatory letters—are of one opinion in their estimate of the value to accrue to the Republican party and to the nation from the Platform Contest, which closed last Friday night. Those who have written have spoken in high terms.

The contest was devised to gather the views of the man at the plow and the man in the shop, the business and professional man and the woman voters in the North, South, East and West, and to have them enable The Tribune to frame a model platform, merging the general public expression in concise form. No section of the country failed to contribute a just proportion of the thousands of letters and planks received, and the result of the analysis will be seen in the ten planks to be published in The Tribune next Sunday.

Every phase of governmental thought has been touched upon by contributors in the contest, from the least important to the great problem of capital and labor, which readers of The Tribune appear to have selected as the foremost issue of the campaign.

In view of the fact that The Tribune's model platform may be called a people's platform, some of the opinions of those who are contestants may be printed as in a measure voicing the judgment of the whole on the general accomplishment.

A Boston contributor writes: "Your platform page has excited such wide and genuine interest that its 'value' to the American voter cannot be overestimated, and the many evidences of the break and humanitarian policy which has characterized The Tribune under the guidance of a long line of distinguished editors are not appreciated by your host of American readers."

Two New Haven, Conn., men are signers of the following: "Nothing has turned the thoughts of the public to the heart of the issues at stake so effectively and to the necessary qualifications of the leader so thoroughly as has the platform contest. Such thought is absolutely essential in government by the people."

"When you asked for platform suggestions you risked either a Babel or the wisdom of many counselors," states a Johnstown, Pa., contestant. "The result proves you judged rightly, and also shows the saneness of going to the people for light when great things impend. By the same token, the soundness of the American heart is disclosed, stanch and sturdy and true, though some of the burdens have been heavy."

In some instances letters of commendation have come from voters who were "seeking light" and who say they have found it in the columns of the platform page. One of these is a Bronx man, who writes: "The platform contest has proved very educational to me. It has awakened in me a greater interest in the affairs and welfare of my country. I feel it has made me a better citizen."

There also are indications that the public feels it has not had enough; that The Tribune might have gone even a little further in its poll of popular sentiment. A Brooklyn man says: "I hope that arrangements will be made to continue in some form the service that this contest has given to the public of all parties."

Some of the readers of The Tribune have been impressed by the fullness

with which certain issues have been discussed. A Saybrook, Conn., contributor, for instance, writes as follows on the thoroughness with which the problem of constitutional changes and Americanizing legislation has been dealt with:

"The study of the subject which has been brought out in this contest has been both inspiring and beneficial. I believe it will be the means of bringing more constructive thought to the platform which will be promulgated at Chicago than has been hitherto manifested in the hitherto hurriedly constructed planks."

A survey of all the issues resulting from a full tabulation of the more than 7,000 planks submitted will be morning in The Tribune to-morrow.

Ship Bill, Fixing Lowest Sale Price, Completed

Senate Commerce Committee Will Report the Amended Measure To-day

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau WASHINGTON, May 3.—The Senate Commerce Committee to-day completed the draft of the merchant marine bill and will report it to the Senate to-morrow. The bill, as changed by the full Commerce Committee, fixes a minimum price at which the government ships can be sold to private interests.

The principal changes made in the bill are: In disposing of ships the Shipping Board is prohibited from accepting a price less than would be required to build a vessel of similar type in a private owned American shipyard at the time of such sale, usual allowance being permitted for depreciation.

The board may sell to aliens only "if unable to sell to American citizens after diligent effort to do so," and is permitted only to sell to aliens vessels up to 6,000 deadweight tons or more than ten years old.

Members of the Shipping Board are forbidden to be officially connected with private shipping enterprises during their tenure of office, or to acquire stocks or become otherwise financially interested.

The Shipping Board construction fund, unlimited by the sub-committee, is limited to \$50,000,000 for five years by the committee amendment. This limitation would prevent further construction after five years.

Persons selling ships built prior to January 1, 1914, are exempted from the income taxes which would be assessed against such sales, provided the proceeds are reinvested in construction of ships under approval of the Shipping Board.

Campaign Forums Begun By Republican Women

Republican women opened campaign headquarters at the Hotel Vanderbilt yesterday afternoon with the first of a series of Monday forums. George L. Glynn, state chairman of the Republican party, congratulated Mrs. Arthur L. Livermore, chairman of the women's executive committee, on the activity of her committee.

"In previous campaigns we elected our candidate in the last week before election," he said. "But with the superior sense of order inherent in the woman voter, we find that the campaign is planned, literature printed, headquarters engaged, and we are well on in the campaign six months before Election Day."

Miss Agnes C. Laut, a magazine writer, informed the women that inflation of the currency was the cause of the high cost of living, and only by the election of business men in Washington could the social unrest be quieted.

"Sixteen million women who are interested in the high cost of milk and eggs and thirty million farmers who are concerned with the production of food are going to determine this election," she said. "We must arrive at a scientific system of food distribution, or there will be riot and bloodshed in this country. Farmers get five cents a quart for the milk you pay eighteen cents for. Eastern farmers let their apples rot on the trees, for it costs more to ship apples from up state into New York City than to send them from Oregon."

STERLING SILVER JEWELRY WATCHES PEARLS, PRECIOUS STONES STATIONERY, SILVER PLATE REED & BARTON THEODORE B. STARR, INC. ESTABLISHED 1862 FIFTH AVENUE AT 47th ST. 4 MAIDEN LANE

Judge Removes Robe to Assail Rent Gougers

(Continued from page one)

from several score of tenants. Mr. Platt said he had not determined whether he would resort to another court.

Eighteen tenants of 635 East 137th Street, the Bronx, are to be evicted to-day by City Marshal Jacob Cash. Mr. Cash said he would take a dozen policemen to help him. According to the marshal the tenants have organized a soviet to resist rent-paying.

Abraham Weinstein, the owner, complained to the Mayor's committee on rent profiteering that he had received no rent for the last three months.

Twenty families, tenants of an apartment house at 1640 Park Place, Brooklyn, were evicted yesterday afternoon by City Marshal David Goldberg, because they had refused to pay an increase in rent since February, when they declared a rent strike. The marshal and his assistants were stoned and were in danger of bodily harm until the police arrived.

Tenants Stone Marshal

Previous to February, it was said, the rents in the apartments had been from \$21 to \$26. After February, they were advanced to from \$29 to \$31, which the tenants deemed exorbitant. After the families were evicted, they congregated in a vacant lot across the street, from which they hurled epithets and stones at the marshal and his assistants. The owners of the house made an inspection following the eviction, and found that bells and wires had been ripped out, ceilings pulled down and walls mutilated.

The efforts of a landlord to evict tenants at 1409 and 1415 East New York Avenue, Brooklyn, after the tenants had agreed to a 25 per cent increase in their rent, were frustrated yesterday by Justice Strahl in the 7th District Municipal Court. The court stayed the eviction for one year and decided that 10 per cent increase was all that the Conservative Holding Company, the owners, was entitled to.

"Controversies between landlords and tenants settled while you wait" is the motto of a "rent bureau," opened as an experiment yesterday by Charles B. McLaughlin, Assistant District Attorney of the Bronx. The bureau's headquarters are located at Tremont and Arthur Avenues. A staff of clerks, conversant with the provisions of the new rent laws, will be on hand night and day to induce landlords and tenants to settle their differences without resorting to legal proceedings. "The advantage of the bureau to the county will be to keep the courts free of thousands of cases which can just as easily be settled out of court," said

Mr. McLaughlin yesterday. "Since the new rent laws were enacted tenants seem to feel that they should take any grievance they might have into court. The new laws are beneficial, but their purpose is not to create litigation by the wholesale but rather to induce landlords and tenants to get together in a friendly way. Our bureau is intended to bring them together. "Our bureau will not take sides either for or against the landlords. Within a week we expect to have enough experience to determine whether the experiment might not be adopted in other boroughs."

Ejections on account of the refusal of tenants to pay increases in rent the first week in May, have not been as numerous as the Mayor's Committee on Profiteering expected.

"There seems to be a general disposition of tenants and landlords to become more conciliatory," said Arthur J. W. Hilby, chairman of the committee, yesterday. "While some flagrant instances of rent profiteering still come to light, widespread profiteering has ceased in great measure. The landlords have learned where they stand under the new laws. Of course there are still some stubborn tenants who look upon any increase as profiteering."

The committee's rooms on the twelfth floor of the Municipal Building continue to be crowded daily with complaining tenants and landlords. These are mostly cases of tenants who appear in groups to protest against increases spread over an entire building.

Leo Kenneth Mayer, counsel for the committee, yesterday learned that twenty-seven marshals during the last week had been called upon to issue only 132 summonses for ejections.

1,000 Apartments Vacated in Chicago

CHICAGO, May 3.—More than 1,000 vacant apartments were thrown on the market over the week-end, and real estate dealers are in a quandary as a result.

Hundreds of families whose rentals had been raised moved out May 1 without warning. Rents have advanced in many cases from 50 to 300 per cent, the agents pleading the law of supply and demand justified the increases.

Real estate agents estimate that 10,000 families who had received notice to move May 1, refused to do so, defying the landlords because they could find no place to move.

The unexpected vacating of more than 1,000 apartments has left the landlords in doubt. Many families doubled up, two to an apartment, and others moved to hotels rather than pay increased rentals.

Boy Held as Train Wrecker

TORRINGTON, Conn., May 3.—Charles Lepotovsky, sixteen years old, was arrested last night on suspicion that he had helped the switch which caused the wreck of a passenger train here early yesterday morning. He is to be examined as to his sanity.

When arrested, according to the police, the boy exclaimed "I'm crazy!" The police are inclined to think he was right. He is the son of a factory hand here and has served a term in the State School for Boys, at Meriden, as incorrigible.

Bomb Plotter Dies in Leap Of 14 Floors

(Continued from page one)

prevent the government from obtaining additional testimony from the witness stand which it expected to produce, will not injure the case against the alleged plotters, it was said yesterday, as others implicated in a confession of Salsedo will tell as much as he could have told.

On the fourteenth floor of the Park Row Building where temporary quarters had been arranged for holding secretly the prisoners charged with taking part in the Red outbreaks, it was said yesterday afternoon, that Salsedo had not confided in any of the prisoners held with him, and it was added that his high spirits had caused his fellow prisoners to believe he did not fear the outcome of his case. He whistled constantly in his little room overlooking the busy street fourteen stories below, they said, and he went so quietly about the work of preparing to leap to his death that not even those in the room next to him knew that he had risen.

Extra guards were placed on the fourteenth floor yesterday afternoon, and none of the prisoners was given permission to talk concerning his part in the bomb outrages.

It was said that Salsedo had expressed the belief shortly after his arrest and confession in March that he would be killed by persons whose names he had mentioned in his account of the bomb plots. He had even told some of his fellow prisoners, it was said, that he did not feel afraid, however, because he believed he had done what was right and was ready to die.

Was Locked Up Since March 7

After the men were arrested and had talked at length with government officials under Chief Flynn, they expressed the desire to be held in the rooms adjoining those of the investigation bureau of the Department of Justice, in the Park Row Building. Here they were kept, in a half dozen small rooms, the beds of which faced the street.

Salsedo's room was next to one of the offices of the Department of Justice, and in this room he had remained since March 7, with only time enough out of doors to exercise. On those occasions, it was said, the prisoners were taken out by agents of the department and were allowed to walk through the hallways.

In the small rooms were wash stands, reading tables, small dining tables and beds, and guards were stationed through the hallways.

It had been known that Department of Justice agents had held prisoners and suspected persons in these apartments as long as one or two days, but it was a revelation that these Federal prisoners had been kept within sight and hearing distance of the throngs that pass there each day for so long without the fact having become known. Chief Flynn expressed the fear last

night that since the news of the detention of the radicals had been made public others who were being sought at this time might seek cover and delay the completion of the government side of the case.

He said, however, that enough information had been obtained from those already in custody to make it impossible for the principal participants in the plots to remain at large long.

According to N. C. Donato, attorney for Salsedo, who has offices on the eleventh floor of the Park Row Building, Salsedo was to have been released several days ago, but was held over May Day owing to possible disturbances.

Replying to that statement, Charles J. Scully, chief of the bomb squad, said that Salsedo had not been promised his release, and added that Chief Flynn had not contemplated freeing him.

Salsedo's lawyer declared his client had not confessed to any part in bomb plot outrages in 1919, and denied in his signed confession that he was an anarchist and had told of his connection with Red plotters.

"We have Salsedo's confession in black and white," replied Mr. Scully. He said Salsedo had said that he was an anarchist and had told of his connection with Red plotters.

Mayor Lunn to Fight Democrats' Unit Rule

Schenectady Mayor Said to Have Support of Several Up-State Delegates

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

ALBANY, May 3.—Mayor George R. Lunn of Schenectady, who has ambitions to wrest control of upstate Democrats from Charles F. Murphy and Tammany Hall, will start his battle to this end when the Democratic delegates to the national convention meet here Thursday and Friday. Mayor Lunn will make an effort to break the system of herding delegates together through unit rule, and will at the same time initiate the work to put William W. Farley out of existence as chairman of the State Democratic Committee.

That the meeting of the Democrats will be something more than a mere discussion of plans and platforms was denied to-night by Albert E. Hoyt, secretary to the state committee. Mr. Hoyt expressed conviction that the unit rule system will prevail, and that whatever the plans of Mayor Lunn may be they will be very short lived and have no effect.

This contention is somewhat negated by persistent reports that Mayor Lunn has the support of several upstate delegates who are ready to follow his leadership. The victory he obtained last week, when his candidate for the Federal District Court was named to the bench, has given him prestige which will work greatly in his favor.

Political wiseacres about the Capitol advance the belief that Mayor Lunn has a possible ambition to come out this fall for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination against Governor Smith. There seems to be little doubt that the Governor will be a candidate to succeed himself.

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Pulling Together for a Permanent Merchant Marine FOR the first time since the Civil War we have a real merchant marine. This fleet of American-owned ships operated under the American flag cost us \$3,000,000,000. Since 1917 we have spent as much money building ships as was represented by the value of all the ships in the world before the war. Are we going to keep this great fleet? From every quarter the answer to this question is YES. But how? 1. Congress is now formulating constructive measures designed to keep the American flag upon the seas. 2. It is evident that these measures should take the form of law BEFORE Government vessels are sold to private owners, since it is apparent that ships sold in advance of pending Congressional action will be sold at a price too low if a strong shipping policy is resolved upon; and too high if America is to remain in a position of weakness on the seas. 3. Congress in 1915 passed the Seaman's Act to raise the standard of American labor at sea. This act, which has made seafaring an attractive avocation for Americans, has operated to equalize the cost of operation as between American and foreign vessels. The Seaman's Law, therefore, should remain in force in substantially its present form. Constructive legislation will do for the American ship what this Act has done for the American Seaman. The Committee of American Shipbuilders in a series of advertisements will place before the public their views of the more important phases of the situation. In this way the Committee hopes to assist in bringing about a right solution of questions vital to the future prosperity of shipbuilding, but equally vital to the safety and prosperity of the nation. Ask for a free copy of "For an American Merchant Marine" COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN SHIP BUILDERS 30 CHURCH STREET, NEW YORK CITY Chairman: J. W. POWELL, Vice-President, Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp., Ltd., Bethlehem, Pa. H. A. EVANS, President, Baltimore Drydock & Shipbuilding Co., Baltimore, Md. A. C. PESSANO, Chairman Board of Directors, Great Lakes Engineering Works, Detroit, Mich. J. W. MASON, President, Western Pipe and Steel Co. of California, San Francisco, Cal. H. B. TAYLOR, Vice-President, William Cramp & Sons Ship & Engine Bldg. Co., Philadelphia, Pa. J. F. DUTHIE, President, J. F. Duthie & Co., Seattle, Wash. PALL MALL (REGULAR), PLAIN OR CORK, IN BOXES OF 10, 50 AND 100, AS USUAL